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## SAFETY INVOLVES EVERY AIRMAN

It's been said that "we learn best, what we learn first." When we receive training throughout our careers, it's presented in a building block approach and we learn the basics first. The underlying theme of this month's magazine is "Stick to the Basics"—four quick words that can help prevent the next mishap, and see you through to a positive conclusion of a dangerous situation, and a solid foundation of knowledge is something you can fall back on when faced with adverse conditions. Read through this month's awards section and see how "Sticking to the Basics" helped Lt Col Fenton, as his "quick action, smart decisions, and expert flying skills enabled him to safely recover a crippled aircraft," or TSgt Bryant encouraging members to implement the ORM process in all activities.

In order to prevent the next mishap, we need to consider when and how it might happen. History shows that our next flight mishap will likely be one of the following three scenarios: a midair due to complacency or misprioritization, a night mishap with or without NVGs as a contributing factor; and finally, we could have a flight mishap associated with weather or a bird strike. Our next ground mishap will most likely involve fatigue, darkness, drinking, and a failure to wear seat belts. Failing to follow technical order guidance on the flight line could be our next Class A weapons mishap waiting to happen. The key to preventing any of these mishaps from happening is involved leadership at all levels, taking advantage of opportunities to make safety proactive in your unit, and by "Sticking to the Basics."

**Colonel Creid K. Johnson,**  
**ACC Director of Safety**



Photo by TSgt Ben Bloker